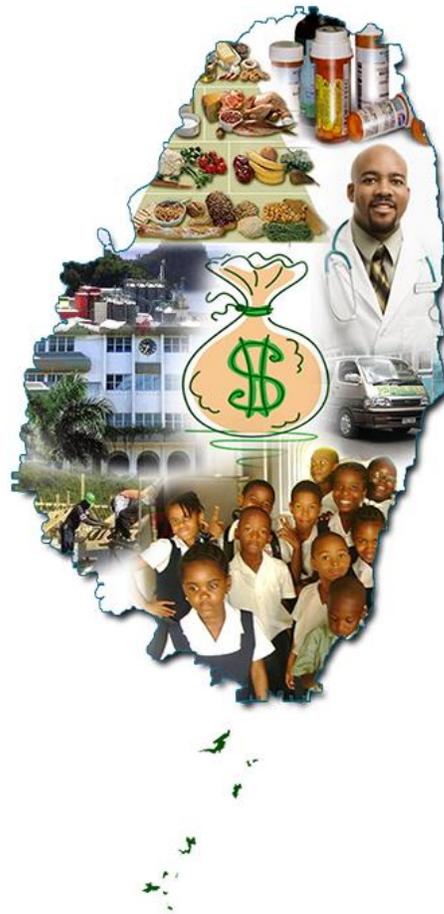




# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



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## **FEBRUARY 2016**

The consumer price index recorded a decline of 0.1 percent for the month of February. The “All Items” index was registered at 104.6 for the month of February 2016, in contrast to 104.7 registered for January 2016. The “point to point” inflation rate was recorded as negative 1.3 percent.

Six (6) groups recorded increases during the month: “Clothing and Footwear” (0.4 percent), “Restaurants and Hotels” (0.3 percent), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.2 percent), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.1 percent), “Transport” (0.1 percent) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1 percent).

Three (3) groups recorded decreases for the month “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.4 percent), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels” (0.2 percent) and “Recreation and Culture” (0.2 percent).

The “Clothing and Footwear” group index showed an increase of 0.4 percent due to increases in the prices for baby socks (47.5 percent) and women’s sleepwear (9.1 percent). The 0.3 percent increase in the “Restaurants and Hotels” group index was attributed to a 25.0 percent price increase for a school meal - pizza.

Meanwhile, the 0.2 percent increase in the index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” was due to higher prices for stout (3.6 percent) and brandy (1.4 percent). The “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” group index registered a 0.1 percent rise which is attributed to a 24.4 percent increase in the cost of alkaline batteries.

Correspondingly, the index for the group “Transport” showed a 0.1 percent increase due to higher cost for international passenger airfares from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Toronto (41.7 percent) and London (13.5 percent). Similarly, the “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” index recorded a 0.1 percent rise due to a higher price for deodorant (5.0 percent).

The “Food and Non- Alcoholic Beverages” group index recorded a 0.4 percent decline, as a result of decreases in the prices for several food items namely; chicken – drumsticks (8.6 percent), tomatoes (6.7 percent), lentils -loose (4.6 percent), evaporated milk- tin (4.3 percent), eggs ( 3.1 percent), pig feet - frozen ( 3.2 percent), cream cheese (3.2 percent), sugar –white (2.9 percent) and powdered full cream milk (1.6 percent).

Similarly, the 0.2 percent decrease in the “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels” group index was accounted for by a 3.2 percent decrease in the cost of electricity. The lower cost of electricity resulted from a decrease in the fuel surcharge rate which fell from 20.71 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of January 2016 to 18.48 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of February 2016.

Meanwhile, the “Recreation and Culture” group index reflected a 0.2 percent decline due to 3.2 percent decrease in the price of a mathematics textbook.

**TABLE 1**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		ECS			
		FEBRUARY 2016	JANUARY 2016		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Crackers - Whole wheat	5oz Pk	4.40	4.19	0.21	5.01
Chicken - Necks	Lb	2.25	1.62	0.63	38.89
Canned fish - Tuna	142g Tin	5.35	5.07	0.28	5.52
Watermelon	Lb	3.46	3.14	0.32	10.19
Cabbage	Lb	3.77	3.08	0.69	22.40
Pineapple	Lb	5.61	5.14	0.47	9.14
Onion - loose	Lb	2.57	2.49	0.08	3.21
Black Pepper	1/4Lb	6.09	5.75	0.34	5.91
Brandy	750ml Bot	39.19	38.63	0.56	1.45
Stout	275ml Bot	5.75	5.55	0.20	3.60
House Rent:					
Unfurnished House - 2 Bedrooms	Month	567.86	546.43	21.43	3.92
Women's Sleepwear 2pc	Each	59.95	54.95	5.00	9.10
Baby Socks	1 Pair	2.95	2.00	0.95	47.50
Alkaline battery (AA)	4pk	5.60	4.50	1.10	24.44
Passenger Airfares from St Vincent to:					
Toronto	Month	3701.20	2612.7	1088.50	41.66
London	Month	4273.50	3766.20	507.30	13.47
School Meal - Pizza	Each	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.00
Deodorant	50ml Bot	5.26	5.01	0.25	4.99
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Chicken - Drumsticks	Lb	2.23	2.44	-0.21	-8.61
Pig-feet Frozen	Lb	3.60	3.72	-0.12	-3.23
Oats - Cereal	500g Pk	3.95	4.45	-0.50	-11.24
Sliced Bacon	12oz Pk	10.81	11.09	-0.28	-2.52
Evaporated Milk	410g Tin	3.08	3.22	-0.14	-4.35
Powdered Milk Full Cream	Lb	6.25	6.35	-0.10	-1.57
Cream Cheese	8oz Tub	8.51	8.79	-0.28	-3.19
Red apple	Lb	5.41	5.55	-0.14	-2.52
Eggs	Dozen	9.10	9.39	-0.29	-3.09
Tomatoes	Lb	5.15	5.52	-0.37	-6.70
Cauliflower	Lb	7.42	8.02	-0.60	-7.48
Peanut Butter	18oz Bot	10.89	11.14	-0.25	-2.24
Frozen Vegetables	32oz Pk	14.51	15.18	-0.67	-4.41
Lentils - loose	Lb	2.69	2.82	-0.13	-4.61
Red Kidney Beans -Packaged	454g Pk	7.17	7.27	-0.10	-1.38
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb	1.68	1.73	-0.05	-2.89
Mattress Foam - Double	Each	450.00	465.00	-15.00	-3.23
Electricity Consumption Charge	140KWH	95.87	98.99	-3.12	-3.15
Mathematics Textbook	Each	37.27	38.51	-1.24	-3.22

**TABLE 2**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2016 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2015**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE ECS		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2016	FEBRUARY 2015		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.06	6.36	-0.30	-4.72
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.12	2.86	-0.74	-25.87
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.61	1.67	-0.06	-3.59
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.72	4.83	-0.11	-2.28
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.19	3.85	-0.66	-17.14
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.29	5.28	0.01	0.19
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	7.75	7.60	0.15	1.97
Codfish	Lb.	14.80	14.63	0.17	1.16
Cornflakes	12 oz	12.98	12.76	0.22	1.72
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.62	4.36	0.26	5.96
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.08	3.39	-0.31	-9.14
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.29	3.54	-0.25	-7.06
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.99	1.99	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.25	4.25	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	9.10	8.64	0.46	5.32
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	8.41	7.65	0.76	9.93
Sugar - Brown ( loose)	Lb.	1.35	1.42	-0.07	-4.93
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.68	1.74	-0.06	-3.45
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2 kg	6.75	6.75	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg	7.39	7.39	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.78	1.78	0.00	0.00
Rice - Package	2 kg	9.14	9.20	-0.06	-0.65
Bananas	Lb.	1.34	1.31	0.03	2.29
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.66	2.66	0.00	0.00
Eddoes	Lb.	2.78	2.58	0.20	7.75
Dasheens	Lb.	2.18	1.88	0.30	15.96
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.07	2.00	0.07	3.50
Oranges	Each	0.81	0.74	0.07	9.46
Tomatoes	Lb.	5.15	3.31	1.84	55.59
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	7.85	7.90	-0.05	-0.63
Vegetable Oil	Litre	10.73	10.54	0.19	1.80
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.66	10.58	0.08	0.76
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.31	2.26	0.05	2.21
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.64	5.60	0.04	0.71

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2016 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2015**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2016	FEBRUARY 2015		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.02	29.02	0.00	0.00
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.61	4.48	0.13	2.90
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.91	3.46	0.45	13.01
Table wine ( local )	26 oz Bot.	18.79	18.58	0.21	1.13
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	47.95	47.95	0.00	0.00
Textile material - Linen	Yd.	17.95	17.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	69.95	69.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans ( long ) - size 30	Each	49.95	39.95	10.00	25.03
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.79	79.95	-0.16	-0.20
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.77	110.00	-20.23	-18.39
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Each	29.95	25.00	4.95	19.80
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
Rent :					
Unfurnished House -2 Bedrooms	Month	567.86	546.43	21.43	3.92
Unfurnished House -3 Bedrooms	Month	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment - 2 Bedrooms	Month	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.00
Cement - Portland ( grey)	94 Lbs	24.90	24.90	0.00	0.00
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	86.62	86.38	0.24	0.28
Oil Paint	Gallon	105.00	100.00	5.00	5.00
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	68.30	68.07	0.23	0.34
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	Gallon	8.33	12.40	-4.07	-32.82
Charcoal	Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	31.25	31.25	0.00	0.00
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	95.87	114.37	-18.50	-16.18
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1,162.50	1,162.50	0.00	0.00
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	125.00	88.80	36.20	40.77
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	52.76	52.76	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.16	1.14	0.02	1.75
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	5.96	5.87	0.09	1.53

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2016 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2015**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2016	FEBRUARY 2015		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	Visit	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
Eye Care	Test	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Hospitalisation (Private Ward)	Day	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
Drug for Hypertension	Month supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	13.47	13.70	-0.23	-1.68
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.35	15.58	-0.23	-1.48
Dental Care	Visit	123.33	116.67	6.66	5.71
Chest X- ray	Test	120.00	120.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	10.30	11.47	-1.17	-10.20
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	Year	470.00	470.00	0.00	0.00
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	One Way	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Boat Fare - Bequia	One Way	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
Telephone Service - rental of line- domestic	Month	23.46	23.46	0.00	0.00
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	Month	101.70	101.70	0.00	0.00
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	0.78	0.80	-0.02	-2.50
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1,989.25	1,999.00	-9.75	-0.49
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3,813.54	3,832.24	-18.70	-0.49
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2,061.34	2,071.45	-10.11	-0.49
Car Remote Control	Each	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.37	3.29	0.08	2.43
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	275.00	250.00	25.00	10.00

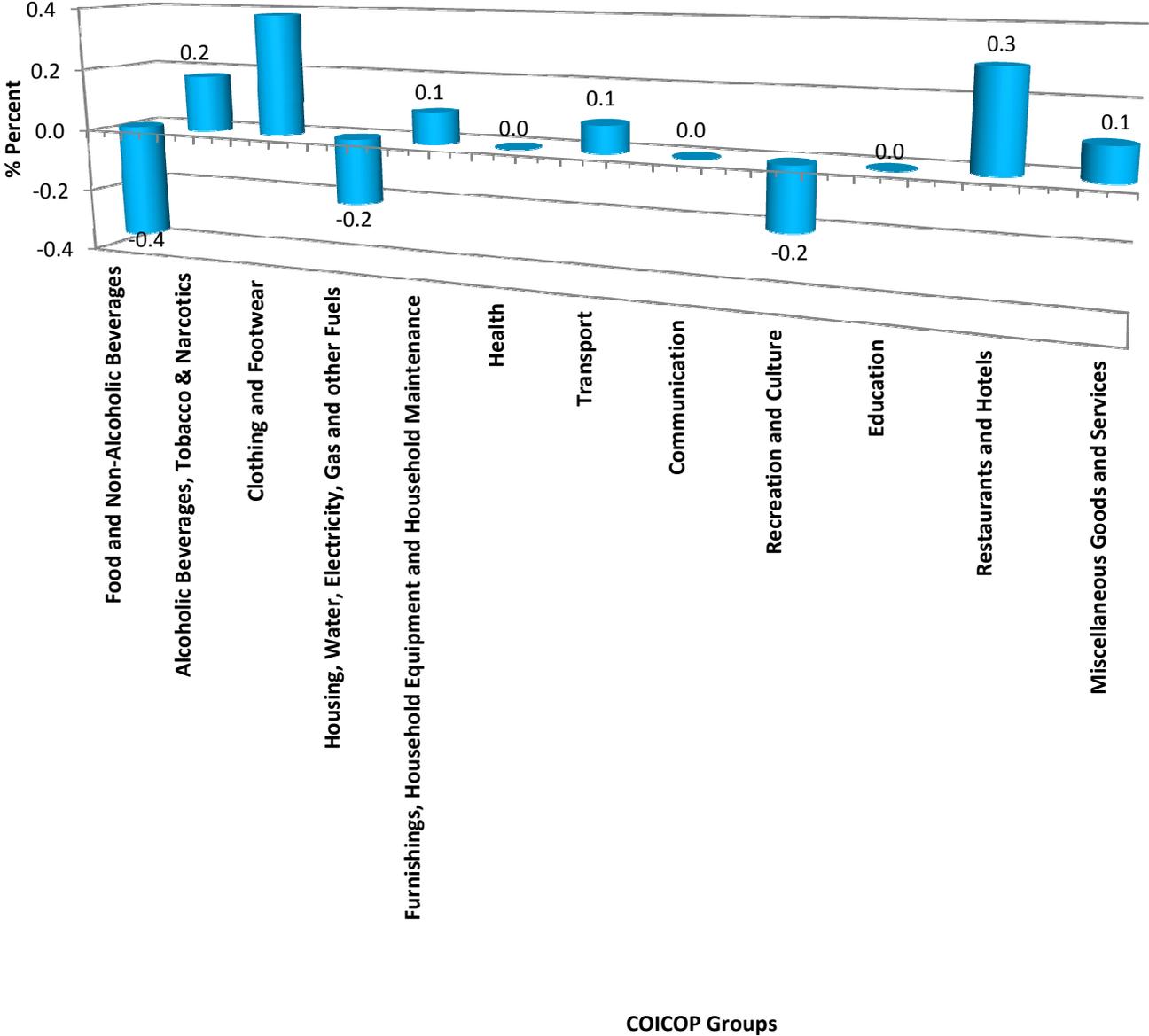
**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2016 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2015**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2016	FEBRUARY 2015		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	205.00	205.00	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	825.00	650.00	175.00	26.92
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.86	0.85	0.01	1.18
Lead Pencils	Each	0.87	0.92	-0.05	-5.43
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	79.72	80.16	-0.44	-0.55
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	13.86	13.86	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	13.86	15.10	-1.24	-8.21
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	16.85	16.85	0.00	0.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.50	3.46	0.04	1.16
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.06	9.17	-0.11	-1.20
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer )	Visit	64.81	64.81	0.00	0.00
Disposable Diapers ( medium )	10 per Pk.	12.81	12.76	0.05	0.39
Health Insurance - Group (family)	≥3 Persons	307.00	307.00	0.00	0.00
Legal Expenses (Affidavit)	Fee	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00

**TABLE 3**  
**THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**

	GROUPS	WEIGHT	JANUARY 2016	FEBRUARY 2016	FEBRUARY 2015	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS:	
						MONTH JANUARY	YEAR FEBRUARY
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	110.0	109.6	112.3	-0.4	-2.4
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	112.3	112.5	109.6	0.2	2.6
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.1	104.5	102.8	0.4	1.7
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	96.9	96.7	99.7	-0.2	-3.0
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	102.1	102.2	101.2	0.1	1.0
06.	Health	1.79	108.0	108.0	104.0	0.0	3.8
07.	Transport	11.84	115.8	115.9	121.5	0.1	-4.6
08.	Communication	9.41	106.3	106.3	102.0	0.0	4.2
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	103.3	103.1	102.6	-0.2	0.5
10.	Education	1.32	108.5	108.5	109.0	0.0	-0.5
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	102.1	102.4	103.3	0.3	-0.9
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	101.2	101.3	101.0	0.1	0.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	104.7	104.6	106.0	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-1.3</b>

Chart 1: COICOP Groups Percentage Change for February 2016



**TABLE 4**  
**THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**  
**CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE**

	GROUPS	WEIGHT	JANUARY 2016	FEBRUARY 2016	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						JANUARY 2016	FEBRUARY 2016		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	110.0	109.6	-0.3	2,409.22	2,401.34	-7.9	78.9
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	112.3	112.5	0.2	434.60	435.38	0.8	-7.7
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.1	104.5	0.4	335.20	336.49	1.3	-12.9
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	96.9	96.7	-0.2	2,912.81	2,906.80	-6.0	60.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	102.1	102.2	0.1	672.84	673.50	0.7	-6.6
6.	Health	1.79	108.0	108.0	0.0	193.32	193.32	0.0	0.0
7.	Transport	11.84	115.8	115.9	0.1	1,371.07	1,372.26	1.2	-11.8
8.	Communication	9.41	106.3	106.3	0.0	1,000.28	1,000.28	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	103.3	103.1	-0.2	393.57	392.81	-0.8	7.6
10.	Education	1.32	108.5	108.5	0.0	143.22	143.22	0.0	0.0
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	102.1	102.4	0.3	190.93	191.49	0.6	-5.6
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	101.2	101.3	0.1	436.17	436.60	0.4	-4.3
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	104.7	104.6	-0.1	10,470.00	10,460.00	-10.0	100.0

**TABLE 5**  
**MONTHLY INDEX - 2015**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**

<b>GROUPS</b>	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>Food &amp; Non-Alcoholic Beverages</b>	<b>Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco &amp; Narcotics</b>	<b>Clothing &amp; Footwear</b>	<b>Housing Water Electricity Gas and Fuels</b>	<b>Furnishings Household Equipment &amp; Household Maintenance</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>Recreation &amp; Culture</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Restaurants &amp; Hotels</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Goods and Services</b>
WEIGHT	100.00	21.91	3.87	3.22	30.06	6.59	1.79	11.84	9.41	3.81	1.32	1.87	4.31
MONTH													
January	104.7	110.0	112.3	104.1	96.9	102.1	108.0	115.8	106.3	103.3	108.5	102.1	101.2
February	104.6	109.6	112.5	104.5	96.7	102.2	108.0	115.9	106.3	103.1	108.5	102.4	101.3